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April 20, 1981

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Mr. James E. Bess
Deputy Zoning Administrator
Government of the District of Columbia
Department of Housing and Community Development
Washington, D.C.

Re: 3708 Huntington St., N.W.
Lot 859 Square 1876

Dear Mr. Bess:

Reference is made to your letter of March 24, 1981. The property at 3708 Huntington Street, N.W. is occupied by eleven individuals who are recovering alcoholics. The men are part of a group called Oxford House, which is incorporated as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of Maryland. It is not "doing business" as such in the District of Columbia.

The group at 3708 was assisted by Oxford House, Inc. in getting started and in following practices and principles established by Oxford House. The group is an eleemosynary organization i.e. non-profit, supported entirely by contributions, and provides refuge for the recovering alcoholic. As such it would not be subject to the six unrelated person limitation for residing even if 3708 Huntington were classified for zoning purposes as R-1-B.

However, since 3708 Huntington is zoned R-5-C there should certainly be no problem in granting an occupancy permit for use of the property by the Oxford House group. As you know the group has lived at 3708 Huntington for over five years and has caused no disruption to the neighborhood.

I trust you will accept this letter as a formal request for an occupancy permit; if not please send me whatever forms are needed.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in this matter. Oxford House-Huntington is providing a very useful community service and has an excellent track record in helping recovering alcoholics.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Molloy

J. Paul Molloy